

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Sergeant Floyd Monument

AND/OR COMMON

Sergeant Floyd Monument

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Glenn Avenue and Louis Road

CITY, TOWN

Sioux City

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

006 (sixth)

STATE

Iowa

CODE

19

COUNTY

Woodbury

CODE

193

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☒ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
☐ ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☒ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME (Sioux City Municipal Government) Mr. Paul Morris, Director Parks and Recreation

STREET & NUMBER

Box 447, City Hall

CITY, TOWN

Sioux City

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 51102

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Woodbury County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Sioux City

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1955

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic Sites Survey, 1100 L. Street, NW.

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE
D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD (surrounding	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>1857</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR area)	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> eroded	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> destroyed

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Sergeant Charles Floyd died August 20, 1804 and was buried on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River from its northern bank. A cedar post was fixed at the head of his grave with the inscription, "Sergt C. Floyd died here 20th of August 1804." This post was reset by traders and travellers until 1857. In that year the Missouri was very high, causing considerable soil erosion. Floyd's grave had become partially exposed before a boy was lowered over the side of the bluff on a rope and placed the bones in a basket. They were put in a coffin and reburied some distance further back on the bluff. This second grave was not marked and was not rediscovered until 1895. The bones were positively identified, placed in urns and reburied with elaborate services. The remains were unearthed a third time following the construction of the Floyd Monument in 1901 and were buried in its base. The shaft is a 100-foot obelisk of heavy Kettle River sandstone with a concrete inner core. It is built on the same bluff where Floyd was originally buried, and is part of a 23-acre park which runs between Highway 75 on the east and the Missouri River on the west at the southern approach to Sioux City, Iowa.

Floyd's Bluff has an asphalt driveway up its eastern slope from Route 75 to Floyd Monument at its crest. A gravel parking area is also located on the east slope. A low stone wall caps the western slope, overlooking Route 77 and the Missouri River.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1804

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sergeant Charles Floyd was the only member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to lose his life during the journey to the Pacific and back, 1804-1806. He died August 20, 1804, probably of appendicitis. Floyd was the first American soldier recorded to die west of the Mississippi in the Louisiana Purchase territory.

The expedition returned to Floyd's grave on their homeward journey in 1806. In the years that followed, many travellers visited the site, including: Henry Brackenridge, 1811; George Catlin, 1832; Maximilian, 1833; and John Audubon, 1843.

In 1857 erosion destroyed Floyd's grave and he was reinterred about 200 yards back from the face of the bluff. The remains were transferred to the new Floyd Monument in 1901.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Morttison, Ray H., "Sergeant Floyd's Grave", Historic Sites Survey report, 1955.
Evans, Ward R., "Historical Sketch of Floyd Park and Floyd Monument", unpublished,
Historic Sites Survey Files.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 14 7115620 47104260
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The site of Sergeant Floyd's original burial in 1804 no longer exists and the site of his reburial in 1857 is lost. Floyd's Bluff is the general site of the burial and is therefore the landmark site. Although eroded, it still affords the same magnificent view of the Missouri which led Lewis and Clark to bury Floyd there. The boundary is described by the broken line on the accompanying U.S.G.S. minute topographic map, labelled "Sioux City South Quadrangle" and dated 1963 (photorevised 1971). The line encloses the area labelled "Floyd Park". This section, enclosing the immediate Floyd's Bluff area, covers slightly less than ten acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Stephen Lissandrello, Historian, Landmarks Boundary Review Project

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

DATE

7/2/75

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L. Street, NW

TELEPHONE

202-523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C. 20240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER